# **Keeping Occasional Invaders Out**

The majority of insects we find inside structures originate from outside. Many get in accidentally, and when conditions are favorable, they can complete some or all of their life cycle indoors.

## **Millipedes**

- Dark, hard-shelled, cylindrical, worm-like bodies that can curl up
- 2 pairs of legs per body segment
- Decomposers of decaying leaves and other organic matter



#### Ground beetles

and animal matter



- Dark, hard-shelled bodies and sometimes metallic
- Rarely fly, but can run quickly

Dark bodies with modified jumping hind legs

Omnivorous scavengers that consume plant

Males produce chirping sounds with their

Field crickets

Predators of small insects both as adults and larvae

#### **Centipedes**



- Reddish-brown, flattened bodies with long legs and antennae
- Scurry rapidly with 1 pair of legs per body segment
- Predators of small insects and spiders

Often seasonal (fall) Many are nocturnal Looking for food, moisture, shelter Little/no damage in small numbers Can invade in large numbers Considered nuisance pests





- **Wolf spiders**
- Body size, patterns, and color vary but always have 8 eyes in 3 rows
- Active hunters and do not spin webs
- Predators of small insects and other spiders

## Stop occasional invaders by changing conditions that attract them and allow entry into the building



Change outdoor lighting to warm colored (yellow/orange) LED bulbs or yellow "bug lights"



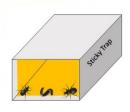
Seal entry points under and around exterior doors, windows, and utility openings



Sweep and vacuum frequently to reduce insect food sources for predators



Reduce vegetation, leaf litter, and clutter around the foundation to decrease hiding spots



Use insect sticky traps to monitor and reduce the number of indoor pests

Residual insecticides applied to the exterior perimeter of the structure may help if done correctly. Be sure to read and follow the label or contact a professional pest control company for best results.

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